



## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

### JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

383 Hall of Administration/500 West Temple Street/Los Angeles, California 90012 / (213) 974-1431

## MINUTES OF THE 676<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

The 676<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission was held on September 21, 2006, in Room 372 at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California. A list of those present follows:

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Bertrum M. CeDillos, Chair  
Nelson L. Atkins, Vice Chair  
Clifton Albright  
Andrew Friedman  
William J. Galloway  
Ann Jackson  
Paul A. Jacobs  
Thomas J. Jeffers

#### **EX OFFICIO MEMBERS**

Heather Aubry, City Attorney's Office  
Lieutenant George Bush, L.A.P.D.  
Captain Samuel Dacus, L.A.S.D.  
Laura Green, Office of Public Defender  
Michael P. Karsch, City of Los Angeles  
Devallis Rutledge, District Attorney's Office

#### **COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES**

Dardy Chen, Superior Court  
Bea Dieringer, District Attorney's Office  
Honorable James Endman, Superior Court  
Zoe Venhuizen, Superior Court  
Dennis Zine, Independent Cities Association

#### **GUESTS**

William Mitchell, Deputy Executive Officer  
Administration – Finance, Superior Court

#### **STAFF**

Dedie Ward  
Martha Arana

#### MEMBERS

Bertrum M. CeDillos  
*Chair*

Nelson L. Atkins  
*Vice Chair*

Clifton Albright  
Andrew Friedman  
Gary L. Barr  
William J. Galloway  
Ann Jackson  
Paul A. Jacobs  
Thomas J. Jeffers  
Neal S. Millard  
Carol L. Rose  
Sylvia Scott-Hayes

#### **MEMBERS EXCUSED**

Gary L. Barr  
Neal S. Millard  
Carol L. Rose  
Sylvia Scott-Hayes

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair CeDillos called the 676<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission (JPC) to order at 12:40 p.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Albright led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Introductions of the Commissioners, Ex Officio Members, Staff and Guests followed.

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair CeDillos welcomed everyone and made the following announcements:

- Due to the next JPC meeting being scheduled on the same day as the mandatory SB 1234 Ethnic Training, Chair CeDillos announced the Commission meeting scheduled for October would be cancelled to accommodate Commissioner's attendance at the training.
- The 2006 Holiday gathering for JPC will be held at Kendall's Brasserie, during lunchtime.
- The press conference to promote the Judicial Procedures' Child Custody Exchange Program at the Temple City and Carson Sheriff's Stations was held at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Headquarters in Monterey Park, CA. Present at the press conference were Mayor Michael D. Antonovich, Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Sheriff Leroy D. Baca, Chair CeDillos, Peggy Shuttleworth Bea Dieringer, and Devallis Rutledge.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 17, 2006**

On motion of Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Albright and unanimously carried, the minutes for the meeting of August 17, 2006 were approved with the following correction:

#### **Page 4, Under UPDATE ON POLICE OVERTIME**

Lieutenant Bush reported that the Overtime Reduction program which was initiated in the City Attorney's Witness Detail Division, has been very successful since it began in 2004. This program has saved the court approximately \$6 million in overtime costs. The program ~~is being~~ **received a** 2006 Productivity and Quality Award.

**GUEST SPEAKER, WILLIAM MITCHELL, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER,  
ADMINISTRATION – FINANCE, SUPERIOR COURT**

Chair CeDillos welcomed and introduced William Mitchell who has been the Deputy Executive Officer in Administration – Finance for Superior Court for the past four years.

Mr. Mitchell gave an overview of the budget process for Trial Courts and how funding is allocated from the State. Due to the fiscal crises, the process for requesting funding for the courts has undergone major changes. Prior to Fiscal Year 2005-06, the courts would submit budget requests to the State covering mandatory cost increases and costs for other programs aligned with Judicial Council priorities.

Because of processing changes, budget requests are now submitted by the Judicial Council with recommendations from the Administrative Office of the Court (AOC). The AOC submits a document called The Court SAL (State Appropriation Limit) Growth Factor Allocation Template that outlines its recommendations. This template is then reviewed by the Judicial Council and ultimately submitted to the State for approval. Below are some of the AOC recommendations submitted to the Judicial Council for Fiscal Year 2006-07.

- Approval to redirect \$400,000 from the Trial Court Trust Fund (TCTF) to fully fund the Civil Case Coordination Program.
- Approval to redirect \$800,000 from TCTF to fully fund the Assigned Judges Program.
- Approval to redirect \$968,000 from the TCTF to base budgets of several courts (courts with little or no IT support staff)
- Deferral of allocation for new judgeship funding until SB 56 is enacted, pending the Governor's approval.
- Approval to allocate approximately \$13.0 million in ongoing funding for security at new entrance screening stations and \$2.8 million in one-time funding for equipment.
- Deferral of the establishment of a replacement schedule for entrance screening equipment.

The Court SAL (State Appropriation Limit) Growth Factor Allocation Template does not always mean an increase in the budget for the courts, but rather calls for reductions in other areas of Court processes and requires the solicitation of additional funding available by government statute.

The State Department of Finance determines the State Appropriation Limit for the Trial Courts' budget. Over the course of 16 years, the SAL adjustment increase has been 5 to 9 percent, with an average increase of 5.2%. The State Department of Finance uses the following factors to calculate the percentage adjustments in SAL increases for corresponding fiscal periods:

- Change in per capita personal income;
- Growth in Civilian Population; and
- Daily Average School Attendance for Kindergarten to Grade 14 students.

Although a 5.2 % increase is not a considerable amount, the Judicial Council considers the Courts will do well financially if they continue to get the same percentage increase on a yearly basis.

Every January the Governor's published budget proposal includes the SAL percentage increase that serves as an aid to Court Administration in projecting budget figures for the following fiscal year.

This year's signed Budget Act of 2006 Trial Court Fiscal Year 2006-07 allocated \$132,904,120 (an SAL increase of 4.96% with a 1.48% decrease from Fiscal Year 2005-06) to the Trial Courts Statewide. Due to the decrease in funding received for Fiscal Year 2006-07 statewide, the Courts will face a \$10,000,000 shortfall in funds for security. Therefore, the Director of the Administrative Office of the Court is meeting with Governor Schwarzenegger and the Director of the State Department of Finance to find a solution to this funding shortfall.

Following a question and answer forum, Chair CeDillos thanked Mr. Mitchell for his informative presentation.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES**

Commissioner Jackson reported that Commissioner Rose's father passed away on September 20, 2006 in Florida. The Commission will send its condolences to Commissioner Rose and her family.

#### **MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA (TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA)**

None

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the 676<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Judicial Procedures Commission adjourned at 1:30 p.m.